

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 27, 1860.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. NICHOLSON made the following

REPORT.

[To accompany Bill S. 224.]

*The Committee on Revolutionary Claims, to whom was referred the petition of William Nason and others, legal representatives of John Lord, deceased, make the following report :*

They have carefully examined the several papers on file in the case, and find them fully sustaining the report made to the Senate, on the 15th of February, 1858. The committee therefore adopt the said report as follows :

IN THE SENATE, *February 15, 1858.*

*The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the petition of William Nason and others, legal representatives of John Lord, deceased, report :*

This claim is founded upon the allegation that John Lord served his country, during the war of the revolution, as a seaman on board the United States ship-of-war "Ranger," from April or May, 1779, to May, 1780, when she was taken at the surrender of Charleston, and that he was detained on board a guard-ship some time afterwards, and finally liberated about the last of July—making in all fifteen months. James Gooch deposes that he was purser and clerk of said vessel during the time mentioned ; thinks Lord was aboard ; that no pay-roll was made out, and no payments made to the men.

Joseph Wardwell, a shipmate of Mr. Lord, also testifies to the truth of the facts alleged.

In the original petition of Mr. Lord for the payment of this claim, which was presented to the 20th Congress, he assigns as the reasons why his claim was not sooner urged, that at the time of his discharge he did not know that any provision had been made by government for paying off the seamen ; nor until 1798, when, on his return from a foreign voyage, he was informed by Captain Wardwell, (whose affidavit is in the case,) that he and other "Rangers" had been paid. He then

applied to an agent to assist him in procuring his pay, but without success; and that it still remains unpaid.

It appears from statements that there are no records of the "Ranger" in either the Treasury, War, or Navy Departments.

The case has been twice favorably reported in the House of Representatives, and once a bill passed for its payment; but it being near the close of the Congress, the bill does not appear to have received any action in the Senate. No adverse report upon it appears to have ever been made.

The committee are of opinion that the evidence before them sustains the claim, and they report a bill for the payment of the amount of wages due, with interest thereon from the time that proof of the service rendered was produced and the claim was made upon the government for payment of what was then due.